

## What is Claimed:

- 1                   1.       A remote control system for an electronic device, comprising:  
2                   a processor in the electronic device that generates information to be displayed  
3 as an on-screen display (OSD);  
4                   a transmitter in the electronic device that transmits the generated information  
5 as an OSD information signal; and  
6                   a remote control unit, comprising:  
7                   a receiver which receives the OSD information signal;  
8                   a data processor which processes the OSD information signal to  
9 generate the OSD; and  
10                  a display device operably linked to the data processor which displays  
11 the generated OSD.
- 1                   2.       A remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the remote  
2 control unit further comprises a memory for storing generic OSD data, wherein the data  
3 processor generates the OSD responsive to the OSD information signal and the generic OSD  
4 data.
- 1                   3.       A remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the processor  
2 in the electronic device generates an OSD bitmap as the OSD information and the remote  
3 control unit further comprises a memory for storing the OSD bitmap.
- 1                   4.       A remote control system according to claim 3, wherein the processor  
2 of the remote control unit down samples the OSD bitmap stored in the memory to produce a  
3 down sampled OSD for display on the display device.
- 1                   5.       A remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the electronic  
2 device further comprises a further display device, operably coupled to the electronic device  
3 and the processor of the electronic device is responsive to a command provided by the  
4 remote control unit to selectively suppress display of the OSD on the further display device.

1                   6.     A remote control system according to claim 1, wherein:  
2                   the OSD information includes menu information including a plurality of  
3 options; and

4                   the remote control unit further includes:  
5                   an input device for selecting one option from among the plurality of  
6 options when the menu information is displayed; and

7                   a transmitter for transmitting information concerning the selected  
8 option to the electronic device.

1                   7.     A remote control system according to claim 6, wherein the remote  
2 control unit is a personal digital assistant.

1                   8.     A remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the OSD  
2 information is selected from a group consisting of menu information, closed caption  
3 information and electronic program guide information.

1                   9.     A remote control method for use with an electronic device, comprising  
2 the steps of:

3                   generating, in the electronic device, on-screen display (OSD) information to  
4 be displayed as an OSD;

5                   transmitting the generated OSD information from the electronic device;

6                   receiving the OSD information at a remote control unit;

7                   processing the received OSD information to generate the OSD; and

8                   displaying the generated OSD on a display device operably linked to the  
9 remote control device.

1                   10.    A remote control method according to claim 9, further comprising the  
2 steps of:

3                   storing generic OSD data in the remote control unit; and

4 generating the OSD responsive to the received OSD information signal and the  
5 generic OSD data.

1 11. A remote control method according to claim 9, wherein:

2 the step of generating the OSD information includes the step of generating an  
3 OSD bitmap; and

4 the process further includes the step of storing the OSD bitmap in the remote  
5 control unit.

1 12. A remote control method according to claim 11, further including the  
2 step of down sampling the OSD bitmap stored in the memory to produce a down sampled  
3 OSD for display on the display device linked to the remote control unit.

1 13. A remote control method according to claim 9, wherein:

2 the step of generating the OSD information includes the step of generating  
3 menu information including a plurality of options; and

4 the method further includes the steps of:

5 selecting one option from among the plurality of options when the  
6 menu information is displayed; and

7 transmitting information concerning the selected option to the  
8 electronic device.

1 14. A remote control method according to claim 9, wherein the OSD  
2 information is selected from a group consisting of menu information, closed caption  
3 information and electronic program guide information.

1 15. A remote control method according to claim 9, wherein the electronic  
2 device is operably coupled to a further display device, and the method further includes the  
3 step of selectively suppressing display of the OSD on the further display device, responsive  
4 to a command from the remote control unit.

1           16.    A computer readable carrier including computer program instructions  
2   for a remote control unit for use with an electronic device, the electronic device generating  
3   on-screen display (OSD) information and transmitting the OSD information as an OSD  
4   information signal, the computer program instructions causing the remote control unit to  
5   perform a method comprising the steps of:

6                receiving the OSD information signal;  
7                processing the received OSD information signal to generate the OSD; and  
8                displaying the generated OSD on a display device operably linked to the  
9   remote control unit.

1           17.    A computer readable carrier according to claim 16, wherein the  
2   computer program instructions further cause the remote control unit to perform the steps of:

3                storing generic OSD data in the remote control unit; and  
4                generating the OSD responsive to the received OSD information signal and the  
5   generic OSD data.

1           18.    A computer readable carrier according to claim 16, wherein the  
2   electronic device generates the OSD information as an OSD bitmap and the computer  
3   program instructions further cause the remote control unit to perform the step of storing the  
4   OSD bitmap.

1           19.    A computer readable carrier according to claim 18, wherein the  
2   computer program instructions further cause the remote control unit to perform the step of  
3   down sampling the OSD bitmap stored in the memory to produce a down sampled OSD for  
4   display on the display device.

1           20.    A computer readable carrier according to claim 16, wherein the  
2   electronic device generates menu information including a plurality of options as the OSD  
3   information and the computer program instructions further cause the remote control unit to  
4   perform the steps of:

- 5 receiving a selection of one option from among the plurality of options when
- 6 the menu information is displayed; and
- 7 transmitting information concerning the selected option to the electronic
- 8 device.

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